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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE

REPORT

OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1967



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BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE
JUNE 1967

CHAIRMAN:

Alderman J.W. Duddington

VICE CHAIRMAN:

Councillor Mrs. N.E.C.Kemp

His Worship the Mayor
(Alderman C.H.Barton, J.P.)

Alderman J. Barnett

Alderman H.Green

Alderman F.R.Smith

Councillor Miss L.C.Chamberlain

Councillor D.A.B.Coles

Councillor L.A. Gray

Councillor S.T. Groombridge

Councillor Mrs W.M. Hayward

Councillor D.G.Long .

Councillor R.J. Quick

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

S.A.Boyd, M.D.(Vienna), D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

E.A.Thompson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

C.H.Weller, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (a) (b)

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS:

F.Brown, M.A.P.H.I. (a) (b) (d)

D. Liles, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (b) (c)

R.J. Money, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (e)
(Resigned 31.10.67)

A.J.Longley (Trainee)

CLERICAL STAFF:

J.S.Robertson

Miss F. Holliday

DISINFECTOR:

G.C.Ricrden

RODENT OPERATOR:

V.C.Barker

PUBLIC ANALYST:

J.H.E.Marshall, M.A., F.R.I.C. Canterbury

- (a) Certificate of R.S.I. and S.I. Exam. Joint Board
- (b) Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods
- (c) Certified P.H.I. Education Board
- (d) Certificate, Food Hygiene R.S.I.
- (e) Diploma, P.H.I. Education Board.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1967.

I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Committee, and other officers of the Council for their co-operation and assistance during the year.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

S. A. BOYD,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I - SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

Area of Borough in acres	3,624
Registrar General's estimate of population	38,810
Units of accommodation	13,311
Rateable value at 31.12.67.	£1,472,226
General Rate	13/2d.
Sum represented by a penny rate	£5,840

BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1966</u>
Number of live births:				
Legitimate	250	249	499	496
Illegitimate	<u>34</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>78</u>
	284	272	556	574
	<hr/>			<hr/>

BIRTH RATE

Uncorrected Birth Rate per 1,000 of population	14.3
Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 of population	17.0

(England and Wales - 17.2)

The illegitimate births formed 10.2% of the total live births.

In order to meet the unequal distribution of the population according to age and sex, the Registrar General has supplied a correction factor of 1.19, and when the uncorrected Birth Rate is multiplied by this factor, it results in a corrected rate of 17.0.

STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Total 1966</u>
Legitimate	5	3	8	6
Illegitimate	1	1	2	5

The Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) was 17.6 as compared with 14.8 for England and Wales.

INFANTILE DEATHS

<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Females</u>	
	<u>Legit.</u>	<u>Illegit.</u>		<u>Legit.</u>	<u>Illegit.</u>

Deaths of Infants:

Under 1 year of age:-	7	6	1	2	1	1
Under 4 weeks of age:-	3	3	-	1	-	1
Under 1 week of age:-	3	3	-	1	-	1

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 live births = 16.1
(England and Wales = 18.3)

Legitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate
live births = 14.0

Illegitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate
live births = 35.0

The Infantile Mortality Rate is the lowest recorded and it is gratifying to know that the number of children dying before reaching one year of age still remains at a low level throughout the country.

TOTAL DEATHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>1966</u>
Total number of deaths from all causes and at all ages.	313	292	605	575

TOTAL DEATH RATE

Uncorrected rate per 1,000 of population	15.6
Corrected rate per 1,000 of population	11.3
England and Wales	11.2

The Death Rate shows an increase of 0.5 per 1,000 of population compared with 1966. The Registrar General has supplied a correction factor of 0.73 and when the uncorrected Death Rate is multiplied by this factor it results in a Corrected Rate of 11.3, which eliminates any undue weighting caused by too many elderly people living in Ramsgate.

During 1967, the number of deaths also increased by 30 as compared with the previous year, most of these occurred in persons over 65 years of age.

The following Table shows the causes of the total deaths as given in the Registrar General's statistics:-

<u>CAUSE OF DEATH</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1.	Tuberculosis - respiratory	-	-
2.	" - other	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8.	Measles	-	1
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	10	7
11.	" " lung, bronchus	33	1
12.	" " breast	-	3
13.	" " uterus	-	7
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic conditions	28	24
15.	Leukaemia. aleukaemia	2	3
16.	Diabetes	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	28	46
18.	Coronary disease, angina	82	40
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	2	4
20.	Other heart disease	30	65
21.	Other circulatory diseases	13	17
22.	Influenza	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	17	17
24.	Bronchitis	27	9
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	2	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	3
27.	Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	-	-
28.	Nephritis, nephrosis	1	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth etc.	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	2	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	20	27
33.	Motor vehicles accidents	5	1
34.	All other accidents	5	11
35.	Suicide	-	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-

TOTAL

313

292

605

CAUSES OF DEATH SHOWN BY SEX AND AGE GROUP.

C A U S E O F D E A T H.	TOTAL.	Sex	Under 4 weeks		1 year.		A G E I N Y E A R S.									
			4 weeks	& under	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75+			
8. Measles	-	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	F	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm stomach	10	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	6	2	-	-	-
	7	F	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	3	1	-	-	-
11 Malignant neoplasm lung, bronchus	33	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	9	17	5	-	-	-
	1	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
12. Malignant neoplasm breast	-	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	3	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	7	F	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	3	-	-	-	-
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	28	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	7	12	7	-	-	-
	24	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	8	11	-	-	-
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	M	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	3	F	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	1	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
	1	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	28	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	5	20	-	-	-
	46	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	16	27	-	-	-
18. Coronary disease, angina	82	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	23	34	20	-	-	-
	40	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	19	15	-	-	-
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
	4	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-

C A U S E O F D E A T H. TOTAL. Sex.

Under 4 weeks 4 weeks 1- 5- 15- 25- 35- 45- 55- 65- 75+
4 under 1 year

20. Other heart diseases	30	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	6	19
	65	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	58
21. Other circulatory disease	13	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	7
	17	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	11
22. Influenza	1	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	1	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
23. Pneumonia	17	M	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	12
	17	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	8
24. Bronchitis	27	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	11
	9	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	6
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	2	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	-	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	2	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	3	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
28. Nephritis & nephrosis	1	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	-	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
31. Congenital malformations	2	M	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	2	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	20	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	8
	27	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	9	11
33. Motor vehicle accidents	5	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
	1	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
34. All other accidents	5	M	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
	11	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8
35. Suicide	-	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-

TOTAL ALL CAUSES	313	M	3	4	-	1	2	2	4	17	54	105	121
	292	F	1	1	1	2	1	2	6	6	30	80	162

LUNG CANCER

This was the cause of death in 33 males and 1 female. The difference cannot be attributed solely to occupational hazards and I have no doubt that were investigations to be made into the habits of these people, heavy smoking over a long period would be a major factor.

NUMBER OF DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX

Age Group	Males	Females	TOTAL
Under 1 year	7	2	9
1 - 5 years	-	1	1
5 - 15 years	1	2	3
15 - 25 years	2	1	3
25 - 35 years	2	2	4
35 - 45 years	4	6	10
45 - 55 years	17	6	23
55 - 65 years	54	30	84
65 - 75 years	105	30	185
Over 75 years	121	162	283

TREND OF MORTALITY FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES
OVER PAST 10 YEARS

Years	CANCER:		Vascular	Heart	Bronchitis
	Total	Lung #	lesions	diseases	and Pneumonia
1957	87	17 (19.5)	54	131	41
1958	98	15 (15.3)	59	150	53
1959	89	17 (19.1)	59	173	57
1960	83	18 (21.7)	72	186	47
1961	101	29 (28.7)	78	185	47
1962	111	30 (27.0)	64	203	69
1963	112	30 (26.7)	59	223	71
1964	107	29 (27.1)	77	169	63
1965	107	29 (27.1)	77	206	68
1966	110	39 (35.4)	72	194	54
1967	113	34 (30.0)	74	223	70

* The figures in brackets show the percentage of cancer deaths due to cancer of the lung.

S E C T I O N I I

N A T U R A L A N D S O C I A L C O N D I T I O N S

The greater part of Ramsgate is situated on high ground with a chalky sub-soil, 17 miles from Canterbury and 72 miles from London.

There is a favourable sunshine rate with a low rainfall. While other parts of the country are experiencing rainy weather, this area frequently enjoys sunshine and dryness.

The prevailing winds are westerly, but when northerly or easterly the situation of the Borough affords considerable protection from them. The wide expanse of sands which extend on either side of the Harbour, provides walks and enjoyment for visitors. The Harbour, with its three quarter mile of piers, is open to the public and encloses an area in the outer basin of 35 acres and 12 acres in the inner basin, provides a health giving walk with ever changing interests.

Employment in the Borough is provided by hotels, boarding houses and catering establishments, brewing, flour milling, manufacture of drugs and plastics, and other light industries situated on the outskirts of the Borough.

S E C T I O N I I I

M E T E O R O L O G Y

The principal part of the station is situated on the East Cliff Promenade and consists of a standard fenced enclosure 30 feet by 20 feet, containing the following instruments:-

Dry Bulb Thermometer	}	Mounted in a Stevenson Screen.
Wet Bulb Thermometer		
Maximum Thermometer		
Minimum Thermometer		
Rain Gauge - 5 inch diameter		

Geographical position - Latitude $51^{\circ} 20'N.$
Longitude $1^{\circ} 25'E.$

Height above sea level - 80 feet

A Campbell Stokes Sunshine Recorder is set up on a platform on the roof of Albion House.

A Kew pattern Barometer, graduated in Millibars, is kept in the Municipal Buildings.

Readings are taken daily at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. throughout the year, and coded telegrams sent to the Air Ministry at these times.

During the summer season, an Information Board is maintained in the fenced enclosure, giving details of Sunshine, Rainfall and Temperatures, together with the official forecast for the S.E. Region.

In addition, two separate boards are maintained at the Main Sands Bathing Station and by the East Cliff Lift, giving comparative weekly Sunshine and Rainfall figures for Ramsgate and other resorts.

Weather details of special interest to visitors are broadcast from the Main Sands Bathing Station.

SUNSHINE

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>Daily Average</u>	
January	69.1	Hours		2.2 Hours
February	94.8	"	"	3.4 "
March	177.8	"	"	5.7 "
April	183.6	"	"	6.1 "
May	216.9	"	"	7.0 "
June	231.7	"	"	7.7 "
July	268.2	"	"	8.7 "
August	202.2	"	"	6.5 "
September	145.9	"	"	4.9 "
October	119.3	"	"	3.9 "
November	64.8	"	"	2.2 "
December	63.8	"	"	2.1 "
TOTAL: 1838.1		"		

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>Most sunshine in any one day</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>Sunless Days</u>
January	6.7	1 & 2	11
February	8.2	12	4
March	10.3	29	1
April	13.5	27	3
May	13.3	10	3
June	15.1	13	1
July	15.0	10	1
August	13.4	20	1
September	11.1	9	3
October	8.9	18	4
November	8.7	8	8
December	6.2	18	10

RAINFALL

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Most rain in any one day</u>
January	0.84 inches	0.28 inches
February	0.93 "	0.27 "
March	1.37 "	0.45 "
April	2.88 "	0.77 "
May	2.78 "	0.60 "
June	1.44 "	0.72 "
July	0.31 "	0.14 "
August	1.51 "	0.42 "
September	1.76 "	0.66 "
October	3.54 "	0.60 "
November	0.75 "	0.10 "
December	2.47 "	0.76 "
TOTAL:	20.58 "	

S E C T I O N I V

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Samples of water, ice cream and other pathological specimens are sent to the nearest Public Health Laboratory situated at Preston Hall, Maidstone.

Examinations of pathological specimens are also carried out at the laboratories at the Ramsgate and Margate Wings of the Isle of Thanet District Hospital for medical practitioners.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

In August, 1963 the new ambulance station was opened. This is situated in Haine Road, Ramsgate and provides accommodation for ambulances and sitting cars and also office and rest room facilities.

A total of 11 ambulances and 12 vehicles, the latter each capable of carrying 10 sitting cases are based at the station. All ambulances are fitted with radio, which greatly assists the smooth administration of the service.

A total of 13,565 journeys were made by all vehicles, 94,377 patients being involved, and 302,022 miles covered. In addition 1,871 emergency cases were dealt with.

MEDICAL COMFORTS

Medical comforts, such as bath chairs, bed rests etc. can be hired from the St. John Ambulance Corps, St. Pauls Hall, Sussex Street, for a small weekly hire charge. The depot is open daily between 6.30 - 7.30 p.m., and provides a useful service both for residents and visitors. Emergency requests are dealt with by the Superintendent, Telephone Thanet 51017. In addition, a First Aid Beach Hut is provided and manned by the Corps during the summer months, where minor accidents can be dealt with on the spot, thus relieving a certain amount of pressure on the Ambulance Service. A mobile first aid caravan is also provided which covers all sporting and outdoor events.

MORTUARY

The Municipal Mortuary situated in the grounds of the Police Station continues to function. The number of bodies admitted during the year was 121, post mortems being carried out on all of them.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

The following table gives particulars of the days and times of clinics which are provided by the Kent County Council:-

Maternity and Child Welfare

At Health
Centre

At Broad
Street

Infant Clinics: Monday)
Wednesday) 2 - 4 p.m.

Tuesday) 2 - 4
Thursday (Sale of) p.m.
food only)

School Health Service

Minor Ailments: Wednesday 9.30 a.m.

Dental Clinics: By Appointment.

Orthopaedic " " "

Ophthalmic " " "

HOSPITALS

Mr. R.A.G. White, Secretary of the Isle of Thanet District Hospital, informs me that the following patients were dealt with at the Ramsgate Wing during 1967:-

		<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
In-Patients	* Maternity	-	430
	Others	2125	2542
Out-Patients:	Accident and Emergency Department	6357	6052
Special Departments:	Medical	353	379
	Surgical	1132	1637
	Gynaecological	423	464
	Ophthalmic	784	648
	Paediatric	77	90
	Ear, Nose and Throat	989	890
	Rheumatic	80	66
	Ante-Natal	524	484
	Post-Natal	292	425
	Dermatological	306	342
	Mental Illness	157	180
	Orthopaedic	1483	1637
	Dental	14	69
	Physical Medicine	188	175
	Diseases of the Chest	267	207
	Radiotherapy	97	101
	Diabetic	4	1

* Maternity Department transferred to Margate Wing 1966

The number of units of work (examinations and/or treatment) performed in the Radiological and Physiotherapy Departments was:-

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
Radiological	22618	21285
Physiotherapy	30719	23175

Individual patients' requests involving work in the Pathological Department:-

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
	15420	10719

<u>HAINE HOSPITAL (IN-PATIENTS)</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
Infectious Diseases	171	155
Medical	260	287
Geriatric	95	88
Dermatological	113	118

The number of units of work performed in the Occupational Therapy department was:-

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
	8,000	16,937

NURSING HOMES ACT, 1963

On the 15th May, 1963, The Nursing Homes Act, 1963, came into operation. This Act repeals Section 192 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which originally dealt with exemption from registration of Nursing Homes, and also empowers the Minister of Health to make Regulations as to the conduct of these Homes. Subsequently, The Conduct of Nursing Homes Regulations came into operation as from 27th August, 1963.

At the end of 1967 there were 2 Nursing Homes on the register. One Home, which suffered a fire in 1966, closed after opening for a short period, leaving the total bed accommodation for 82 medical or elderly patients.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948, Section 47 NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

These Acts give authority to secure necessary care and attention for persons who -

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease, or being aged and infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

It was not found necessary to make application to the Court for the removal of any persons coming within the categories mentioned.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 50

Two persons were buried during 1967 by the Local Authority.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

This service is provided by the Kent County Council and covers a wide range of cases requiring assistance.

A panel of approximately 50 helpers deal with 300 - 320 cases each week.

HOME NURSING.
MIDWIFERY SERVICE

These services are provided by the Kent County Council. Four District Nurses and four Midwives are employed in the Borough.

PRIVATE HOMES

There are five Homes in the Borough for Elderly Persons, registered with the Kent County Council, accommodating some 71 persons, and a privately run Home accommodating 39 blind persons.

FAMILY PLANNING

The Family Planning Association holds a weekly clinic in Ramsgate at the Health Centre, Newington Road, by permission of the K.C.C.

The Branch was started four years ago and at first the attendances were small, but have grown since the commencement, and now have an average of 24 patients a session. There are over 500 patients on the register and weekly sessions are held on Wednesday at 6.30. Seventy new patients were seen during 1967. A small fee is charged, but this is waived if circumstances warrant it.

The staff consists of a doctor, three nurses, working on a rota basis, and voluntary lay-workers.

S E C T I O N V

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

Water is supplied by the Thanet Water Board and there has been no change in the sources of supply. There is sufficient for all purposes, and should the need arise it can be augmented from other sources within the area served by the Board. All the houses in the Borough are supplied direct, there are no stand pipes in the area.

The water is drawn from the deep chalk strata and is very hard, much of the hardness is temporary and is removed by heating, thus leaving the typical fur scale on the inside of pipes and kettles. It is not subject to plumbo solvent action. As with all waters drawn from the deeper stratas, there is a high standard of purity; in spite of this all the water is chlorinated before being passed into the public supply.

A regular sampling routine is carried out by the officers of the Thanet Water Board, further samples are also taken by the Public Health Inspectors at monthly intervals. The bacteriological examination of water samples is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Preston Hall, Maidstone. In addition quarterly samples are taken for chemical analysis and sent to the South Eastern Laboratory, Canterbury. A copy of one of the reports on analysis is reproduced hereunder, and is typical of the results being obtained.

Appearance: Clear and bright.

Odour: Chlorinous.

pH value: 7.3

	<u>Parts per million</u>
Free chlorine	0.15
Free ammonia	nil
Albuminoid ammonia	nil
Nitrogen as nitrite	nil
Nitrogen as nitrate	12.5
Chloride	85
Alkalinity as CaCO_3	260
Total hardness	336
Permanent hardness	76
Sulphate	29
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 80°F.	0.05
Total solids	625

There are only 2 wells in use within the Borough. These are used in connection with industry and are situated in a brewery and flour mill respectively. The water is not used for drinking purposes.

COASTAL WATERS

During the year it was agreed that the three Thanet towns should carry out a weekly sampling programme of the coastal waters for bacteriological and chemical examination; the work being carried out in conjunction with the Greater London Council in connection with a feasibility survey into a project to discharge sewage sludge at a point some miles off shore.

Sampling has taken place from five points within the Ramsgate Area, and the period of sampling extended from July to November. The Greater London Council has undertaken responsibility for examination and analysis of the samples, and have taken independent samples on their own account. So far reports have indicated no gross pollution, and have been much as was expected, but the sampling survey is incomplete and would need to extend over a longer period to enable us to come to any definite conclusion.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

No major extensions have been made to the Town's sewerage system during the year, but in 1968 the Council are considering reports as to the likely cost of adapting the present system of sewage treatment to the Electrolytic process of chlorination.

The Council are awaiting Loan Sanction for the extension of Newington trunk sewer Eastwards along Stirling Way to reduce the pressure at the Nixon Avenue/Whitehall Road sewer which is becoming heavily loaded as a result of the extensive development that has taken place in the Northwood area in recent years.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The disposal of all domestic and trade refuse is dealt with at the Controlled Tip adjoining Sandwich Road at Ebbsfleet and during the year 17,016 tons were collected and disposed of. Of this total, 12,405 tons were domestic refuse and 4,611 tons were trade refuse.

In addition 2,467 tons of domestic refuse was accepted for disposal from the Margate Corporation under an agreement which commenced in August, 1967.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

During 1967 there were no alterations to the system of street sweeping and cleansing in the Borough, which employs a gang system with electric orderly trucks in the residential areas and individual sweepers on the seafront and in the Town Centre streets. All adopted roads are also swept by a mechanical suction sweeper once every week and the main business streets and promenades are washed daily during the summer months by vehicles fitted with special street washing equipment.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

There are no rivers or streams within the Borough.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The Public Health Inspectors paid a total of 6,385 visits during the year. Information about their work including lists of notices, together with results of these notices, is to be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector which follows.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The Public Health Inspectors are responsible for the administration of the Shops Act in its entirety. Further information is to be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

Ten holiday sites, to accommodate 506 caravans, have been licensed under the Act, and all sites are subject to the conditions laid down in the Model Standards as modified for holiday sites. There are no residential sites in the Borough. In addition to the above, the Council have made accommodation available for 70 tents in Nethercourt Park and there is provision for overflow in the peak season at King George VI Memorial Park.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1936

There is very little smoke producing industry in the area. Most steam raising plants have been converted to oil fuel and give very little trouble. Domestic smoke can be blamed for any atmospheric pollution there may be, but dilution and dispersal is so rapid that very little actual pollution does occur. This is being reduced annually by the increasing number of domestic premises that are being converted to central heating and using fuels other than coal.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The following tables show the number on the register at 31.12.67, together with the number of inspections and notices, and the position concerning defects.

(i) <u>Inspections</u>	<u>Number of Premises</u>	<u>Number of: Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>
Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4,6 are enforced by Local Authority.	35	4	-
Factories not included above in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	153	69	-
Other premises	34	-	-
TOTAL	222	73	-

(ii) Defects

No. of cases in which defects were:-

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred:</u>		
			<u>To H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>By H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>Prosecutions</u>
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:					
Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
Unsuitable	-	-	-	-	-
Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences	-	-	-	-	-

Thirty-one outworkers were registered, all were engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS

The Marina Swimming Pool is the only one available for use by the general public. This is an open air pool under the Council's management and is operated on the continuous circulation and filtration principle.

Colorimetric tests for residual chlorine and pH values are taken daily and samples of the water despatched to the Public Health Laboratory at weekly intervals for bacteriological examination. It is not claimed

that the water is sterile, but the results of these examinations have been very satisfactory.

There are four other pools in the area not available to the general public, two are confined to school use, being within the school boundary and the others form part of the recreational facilities provided at two of the caravan sites. These too are checked for residual chlorine and pH value and samples are taken for bacteriological examination as with the public pool once a week.

Two slipper baths are available in the Charlotte Court conveniences, one for men and one for women, this latter being a replacement for those at the Paragon Conveniences which had to be closed on the grounds of danger. In addition there are four shower baths for men in the Pier Yard conveniences, and twelve shower baths in the conveniences on the Western Undercliff, six for men and six for women. These latter are available only during the holiday period.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

Five Marine Stores are registered under the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1907, and two of these, being dealers in rags and bones, are also registered as offensive trades under the Public Health Act, 1936

PET ANIMALS ACT

Four premises are licensed as Pet shops under the provisions of this Act. These are visited to ensure that the animals are being kept properly and that there is no nuisance.

S E C T I O N VI

H O U S I N G

The following table sets out the position as reported to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. These figures are compiled from quarterly returns made to the Ministry:-

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

<u>In clearance areas</u>	<u>Houses Demolished</u>	<u>Displaced:</u>	
		<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(i) Houses unfit for human habitation	31	18	6
(ii) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement	-	-	-
(iii) Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957.	-	-	-
<u>Not in Clearance Areas</u>	<u>Houses demolished</u>	<u>Displaced:</u>	
		<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(iv) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1) Housing Act.	-	1	1

B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

	<u>Number</u>
(v) Under Sects. 16(4), 17 (1), and 35 (1), Housing Act 1957.	4
(vi) Under Sects. 17 (3) and 26 Housing Act 1957.	-
(vii) Parts of building closed under Sect. 18 Housing Act, 1957.	4

C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT

By owner

By Local
Authority

(viii) After informal action by
Local Authority

158

-

(ix) After formal notice under:-

(a) Public Health Acts

6

-

(b) Sects. 9 and 16 Housing Act

5

-

(x) Under Sec. 24 Housing Act

-

-

Housing Accommodation

(1) Number of new applications for housing accommodation
received during the current year.

349

(2) Number of families housed from current waiting list.

87

(3) Number of Corporation tenants transferred to other
accommodation within the Corporation Housing Estates

160

(4) New properties completed during 1967/68.

36

(5) Number of properties at present under control of
Corporation.

2,541

SECTION VII

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND
OTHER DISEASES

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified to the Department during the year:-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>No.</u>
Scarlet Fever	11
Measles	311
Whooping Cough	44

It is extremely gratifying to note that the number and severity of infectious diseases occurring nowadays bears no comparison with some 25 - 50 years ago. With the introduction of Diphtheria immunisation in 1940, and with further preventive measures introduced over the years, such as Whooping Cough, Poliomyelitis, Tetanus immunisation, there has been a most impressive decline in this sphere of public health work. This state of affairs however, should not give rise to complacency, especially in a seaside resort like Ramsgate with the floating holiday population. At any time there is the risk of an outbreak and it is the duty of the public health staff to be aware of this potential danger and be able to deal with it accordingly.

As will be seen, Measles was the only disease which occurred in any appreciable number, and this was confined to the child population.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The County Medical Officer informs me that the following were carried out under County Council arrangements in 1957:-

<u>Smallpox Vaccination:-</u>	Primary 315
<u>Poliomyelitis Immunisation:-</u>	Primary 526 Re-inforcing 346
<u>Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus</u>	
<u>Immunisation</u>	<u>Primary Injections</u>
	Triple 502 Diph./Tet. 25
	<u>Re-inforcing Injections</u>
	Triple 421 Diph./Tet. 286.

TUBERCULOSIS

It was not found necessary to take any action during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936.

New cases by age groups are shown below. There were no deaths from this disease during 1967.

Age group	<u>New Cases</u>			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 5	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	1
15 - 25	2	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	1	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	1	1	-	-
55 - 65	1	1	1	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	3	1	1

The number of cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at 31st December, 1967 was:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Respiratory	88 (90)	57 (60)	145 (150)
Non-respiratory	12 (14)	13 (11)	25 (25)
	100 (104)	70 (71)	170 (175)

Figures for 1966 shown in brackets.

VENEREAL DISEASE

A special clinic for the treatment of these diseases is held at Margate Wing, Isle of Thanet Hospital. The days and times are:-

Friday:	Males	11 a.m. - 12 noon.
	Females	10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

The Medical Officer in charge of the Clinic informs me that during the year 1967, a total of 66 new cases from Ramsgate were treated, i.e. 1 Syphilis, 16 Gonorrhoea and 49 other conditions. These figures show a slight reduction as compared with those for 1966.

S E C T I O N VIII

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK

There is one pasteurising plant operating within the Borough, this plant serves an area far beyond the Borough boundary. Carton packaging continues to be used for distribution through the retail shops, and glass bottles are used for deliveries to householders and schools.

There has been some modernisation at this dairy, new plant for pasteurisation and for bottle washing having been installed. The method used is, H.T.S.T., although ultra heat treated milk is on sale within the Town, no processing plant is in operation here.

EXAMINATION AND TESTING

Samples of milk are taken at regular intervals at various points in the chain of distribution and submitted for the methylene blue and phosphatase test. This examination is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Maidstone. School milk is sampled as routine and the results forwarded to the Education Authority. Seventy-two samples were taken during the year, five failed the methylene blue test, but all passed the phosphatase test. Of the failures, 4 were from a dairy in a neighbouring Authority. The 5 samples were taken on hot days and the failure may have been due to delay in transit.

Food & Drugs Sampling - Milk

Fifty-four samples of milk were submitted to the Public Analyst. All were found to be genuine.

The presumptive standard for milk as laid down in the Sale of Milk Regulations is 3% fats and 8.5% solids not fat. A rather higher standard is fixed for Channel Islands Milk, i.e. milk from cattle of the Channel Islands breeds, in this case the standard being 4% fat. This standard is not unduly high, analysis of samples taken here over many years has shown the fat and non fatty solids content to be higher than the presumptive standard, and with Channel Islands milk and fat content is usually rather higher than 4%. The annual average of a period of four years is shown in the tables below.

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>
Fats	4.10	4.30	4.30	4.23
Solids not fat	8.91	8.92	8.85	8.78
Total	13.01	13.22	13.15	13.01

A break-down of the figures for 1967 only gives:-

(1) Pasteurised milk average:	Fats	3.74
	Solids not fat	8.76
	Total	12.50
(11) Channel Islands milk average:	Fats	4.67
	Solids not fat	9.07
	Total	13.74

ICE CREAM

Thirty-eight samples of ice cream were taken and sent to the Public Health Laboratory for examination and grading. Results were as set out below:-

<u>Grades</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>
Soft Ice Cream	15	1	2
Other Ice Cream	16	2	2

None of the samples fell into Grade IV which is gratifying, but four were within Grade III. Follow up samples, however, proved to be satisfactory. Four samples of ice cream were submitted to the Public Analyst and were found on analysis to comply with the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Regulations, 1959.

Most of the ice cream sold from premises such as shops is pre-packed, frozen hard, served from a conservor. There is an increasing trade in soft ice cream. This is supplied to the vendor either as a complete mix in a hermetically sealed tin, and which requires no further attention other than freezing in the machine, or as a cold mix powder to which water is added. In either case attention must be paid to thorough cleanliness in the machine, hence the proportionally higher number of samples taken, i.e. 18 samples of soft ice cream as against 20 samples of ordinary ice cream. From these results it would appear that basic hygienic precautions are being observed.

FOOD PREMISES

These are subject to frequent inspection by the Public Health Inspectors. Where restaurants, cafes and snack bars are concerned, it is considered that these should be visited at least once a month, and more frequently if necessary but the staffing position has made this policy impossible to carry out. However, routine inspections are carried out, and where complaints are made by the general public, an investigation is made forthwith. On the whole, food traders are co-operative and ready to act on advice. It has not been necessary to institute proceedings during the year.

Seven bakehouses, six of which are combined with retail shops, were operating at the end of the year. Eighteen premises are registered for the trade of fish frying.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS

There is no slaughtering carried out in the Borough.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

A total of 7 tons 2 cwt. 3 qtrs. 9 lbs. of unsound meat and various tinned goods etc., was surrendered.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 ADULTERATION

One hundred and thirty eight samples (55 formal and 83 informal) were taken and submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst:-

	<u>Formal</u>	<u>Informal</u>
Milk	54	1
Ice cream		4
Dried Milk		2
Meat Tenderiser.		1
Gelatine		1
Milk Shake, Soft Drinks etc.	1	1
Pectin.		1
Dried Vegetables		3
Jam		1
Guavas		1
Drinking Chocolate		1
Coffee		1
Cake		1
Arrowroot.		1
Chutney - sauces etc.		7
Peanut Butter		1
Cream		2
Jelly		3
Mustard		1
Gravy Improver		1
Krusty Krums		1
Dripping		2
Dessert		2
Pastry Mix		1
Confectionery		4
Codeine Tabs.		1
Minced Beef		2
Tinned Pudding		2
Sugar		2
Malt Drink		1
Meat Roll, Paste etc.		2
Pie Filling etc.		3
Chicken Mince		2
Cheese		1

	<u>Formal</u>	<u>Informal</u>
Tinned Fish		1
Tinned Fruit		2
Tinned Soups		2
Tinned Meat		2
Glace Cherries		2
Ground Almonds		1
Dried Fruit		5
Shellfish		1
Olive Oil		1
Rennet		1
Molasses		1

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD) REGULATIONS

Wherever appropriate the Public Analyst examines samples of food submitted for the presence of preservatives. This year a jar of chutney imported from South Africa was found to contain undeclared preservative in the form of sulphur dioxide to the extent of 110 p.p.m. This was reported to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food who took the matter up with the South African Embassy. The explanation given was that the addition was accidental, probably due to the presence of sulphur on some of the fruit used in the chutney.

SHELLFISH

The Pegwell Bay Shellfish Regulations prohibit the sale for human consumption of cockles gathered in Pegwell Bay unless, and until, they have been sterilised by steam under pressure for six minutes. There is no steam sterilisation in the Borough and cockles are not being collected from the Bay for sale. All cockles sold in the district are brought in from other areas under guarantee of sterilisation. Some mussels and whelks are collected locally and cooked on the vendors own premises. Usually it is necessary to augment local supplies by importation from other areas.

PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, 1967

Part of the annual report submitted to the Ministry of Health is set out below:-

SECTION I.

STAFF

TABLE A

Medical Officer of Health - S.A. Boyd, M.D. (Vienna) ., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector - C.H. Weller, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

SECTION II

AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING
DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR

Ships From:	Number.	Tonnage.	No. inspected		No. reported as having, or having had during voyage, infectious dis- ease on board.
			by M.O.H.	P.H.I.	
Foreign Ports	1,040	72,100	1	14	-
" " (Hovercraft)	370	-	-	-	-
Coastwise	1,295	15,670	-	-	-
TOTAL	2,705	87,770	1	14	-

SECTION III.

CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE

<u>Passenger Traffic</u>	Number of passengers	INWARDS	5,026
	do.	OUTWARDS	5,796

Cargo traffic

Principal Imports

Cars, Grain, Timber.

Principal Exports

Cars.

Principal ports from which ships arrive:

Emden, Antwerp - cargo ships
Baltic Ports - timber
Calais, Ostend and near continental ports - yachts.
Calais - hovercraft.

CROSS CHANNEL - HOVERCRAFT SERVICE

The plans outlined in 1965 to use Ramsgate as a Hoverport came into operation in early spring 1966, and buildings were provided to accommodate the various services required, i.e. H.M. Immigration, Customs and Health Control. The M.O.H. and Deputy M.O.H. together with three medical practitioners were appointed as Medical Inspectors of Aliens and Commonwealth Citizens. A medical examination room was provided and equipped.

The passenger traffic in 1967 was mainly confined to cross channel passengers who did not require medical examination, and the Immigration Officers did not refer any for such examination.

Plans for an international Hoverport situated near the Borough boundary in Pegwell Bay were still under consideration by the Minister of Housing and Local Government following Public Inquiries. If the scheme is approved, it will necessitate the building of new premises on a much larger scale at Cliffsend to accommodate the potential increase in passenger and car traffic, together with all the ancillary buildings connected with such a project.

PUBLIC HEALTH (AIRCRAFT) REGULATIONS, 1952

No action was found necessary under these Regulations, which deal with all matters of health in the case of passengers or crew.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Herewith my report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors for the year ending 31st December, 1967.

This is essentially a summary, dealing only with the salient points, but does give an overall picture of the work that has been accomplished.

Progress in the field of slum clearance has been somewhat disappointing. It is intended that an area near the centre of the town from Brunswick Street to Sussex Street shall be cleared, inspections are complete and detailed reports made out, but the scheme was not quite ready for submission by the end of the year.

Work on the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act is time consuming but very necessary. The ideal that each of the registered premises shall receive a general inspection every four years seems impossible of attainment, as by the end of 1967 approximately 37% still required a first inspection. This work must not be allowed to reduce the other essential work of the inspectorate, such as inspection under the Public Health Act and Housing Act; the regular inspection of food premises and work under the Food & Drugs Act.

An interesting feature of this year's work has been the sampling of coastal waters in conjunction with the Greater London Council. A picture is beginning to emerge, but continued sampling is needed before a firm conclusion can be reached.

Concerning staff, Mr. R.J. Money who joined the Department in June 1966 resigned as from 31st October to take up an appointment with another Authority. The vacancy had not been filled at the end of the year, this has placed more work on to the remaining inspectors, Mr. Brown and Mr. Liles. Mr. A.J. Longley, the Trainee Inspector, has entered his fourth year of training, and is able to play a useful part in the work of the Department.

I have to express my appreciation of the work of the inspectorial and clerical staff during the year, this loyalty and devotion to duty is essential if the Department is to continue to function.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

C.H. Weller,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

CLEARANCE AREAS

No new areas have been declared during the year, but survey and preparatory work has been proceeding on a large area in the centre of the town, this will be ready for representation in the early part of 1968. The position regarding Orders made in previous years is now as follows:-

Hertford Street Area

All the houses have been vacated and the site is cleared and levelled.

Staffordshire Street Area

All but two of the houses have been vacated, part of the site has been cleared and levelled and is used as a temporary car park. This area adjoins the larger area referred to above, and will be included in a scheme for Town Centre development.

School Lane

Houses vacated, but not yet demolished.

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES

One Demolition Order has been made, the house was still occupied at the end of the year, one other house was represented for demolition but the owner asked to be allowed to use the property for storage purposes, and the undertaking was accepted.

Closing Orders were made on three houses where demolition was considered to be impracticable, and a fourth house where an Order had been asked for was given to the Council and no Order was made. Closing Orders have also been made on two basement dwellings, which were unfit and failed to comply with the Underground Room Regulations and on two parts of buildings, which consisted of the living accommodation over shops.

Application for deferment of demolition under the provisions of Section 24 of the Act were made in respect of three houses where Demolition Orders had been made in 1966. These applications were granted and the work of rehabilitation is proceeding. A similar application in respect of another house was granted, in this case the work has been completed and the Order revoked.

RENT ACT 1957

No applications have been received.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Application for Improvement Grants are dealt with by the Borough Engineer, but to avoid the possibility of grants being given where the property is included in a potential clearance area, applications are referred to the Public Health Department for a report. The following information concerning applications has been supplied by the Borough Engineer's Department.

Discretionary Grants

Two applications have been made, both were granted.

Standard Grants

Eighty-two applications have been made, one was refused.

Housing Act, 1964

Work on the Leonards Avenue Improvement Area is proceeding on a voluntary basis, in those cases where the tenants have not raised objections, applications for grant have been made and granted, and the work is in hand.

Two applications under Section 19 have been received during the year; on being approached the owner agreed to carry out the work on a voluntary basis.

FOODHYGIENE REGULATIONS

Regular and frequent inspections of food premises are made in an endeavour to maintain as high a standard as possible. As a result of this policy the co-operation of the food trader has been secured and it has not been found necessary to take any proceedings under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Prosecutions and Complaints

Two prosecutions have been taken during the year.

Ref: FDA.2/67. Metal bolt in Bread Roll

The complainant in this case bit on to the metal bolt in the bread roll and broke a tooth. Proceedings were taken against the vendor and the actual baker. The vendor was acquitted and costs were given against the Corporation, but the baker was found guilty and fined £25 with £10 costs.

Ref: FDA.5/67. Glass in Jar of Shrimp Paste

The complaint concerned a jagged fragment of glass found in a jar of shrimp paste. This was bought in a supermarket and the case was taken directly against the manufacturer, who pleaded guilty and was fined £25 with £5.5.0. costs.

Complaints

Ref: FDA.3/67. This complaint concerned a tin of raspberries in which a large beetle was found. The Public Analyst confirmed that the beetle had been processed with the raspberries and instructions were given for a prosecution to be taken. On further enquiries it was found that the raspberries were canned in Scotland, which is outside the jurisdiction of the English Courts. Therefore the papers were sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, these in turn were sent to the Scottish Home and Health Department and then to the Local Authority concerned, but no proceedings were taken.

FDA.1/67. This was an informal sample of a chutney imported from South Africa which was found to contain undeclared preservative in the form of SO_2 to the extent of 110 p.p.m. This being an imported product the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was informed, and the matter was taken up with the South African Embassy. The presence of SO_2 was thought to be due to some unsuspected sulphur in the raw material, and the fault was rectified.

FDA.4/67 Metal in Rock. This complaint concerned a fragment of metal found in a stick of rock by the purchaser.

The rock was manufactured in Ramsgate, a thorough investigation was made and after consideration of the facts, it was decided not to prosecute and a warning letter was sent to the manufacturers.

SHELLFISH

The sale of shellfish from stalls in the Pier Yard continues. Mussels, cockles, whelks and jellied eels are offered for sale, served on small plates and eaten on the spot. Washing facilities with hot and cold water to a deep sink and a wash-hand basin are provided in a nearby kiosk for the exclusive use of the stallholders.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

There is no problem here with atmospheric pollution, we have no heavy industry and such smoke as there is, is almost entirely domestic. Individual premises where steam raising and heating have gone over to oil firing, and with proper control this does not produce visible smoke. On new installations the memorandum issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local

Government on Chimney Heights has proved a very useful guide, much better than the empirical formula of $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the height of the building. With domestic heating there is an increasing emphasis on central heating using gas or oil firing, this has done much to reduce domestic smoke emissions.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

There are ten caravan camping sites within the area giving a total of 506 spaces. These licences are valid for the period 1st April to 31st October in each year, but one site, a small one accommodating 25 caravans has a licence for all the year use for holiday purposes only, and another site for 130 spaces, tents and caravans where the licence is limited to the period 1st July to 30th September. There are no residential sites within the Borough. On most sites caravans stay all the year round, but are not in use during the winter season, however a few spaces are left for touring caravans. These sites do not make provision for tents.

The Council maintain a site for tented camping at Nethercourt Park, 70 spaces, which is very popular, and provision is made for overflow during the height of the season at King George VI Memorial Park.

This does not prevent unauthorised camping on roadside verges and vacant land. It is feared that there are some people who will tolerate the inconveniences of unauthorised camping for the sake of saving a few shillings on site fees, ignoring the public health hazard and the detriment to amenity. As they are found they are directed to an authorised site, though it frequently happens that these are already filled.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The administration of the Shops Act 1950 remains with the Public Health Department. Observations are kept in the evenings and on Sundays, contraventions are rare, a verbal intimation is usually sufficient to put matters right. The late day opening on Friday evenings by the multiple food shops is very popular with the shoppers. These shops do not keep open beyond 8 p.m., even during the holiday period when closing hours are extended. Many of the shops are operating a five day trading week, closing for one full day, usually Monday, and in others although the half day closing only is observed, assistants working hours are geared to a five day week.

The Council has given shop keepers the full benefit of the concessions permitted in holiday resorts. During the months of June, July, August and September, the peak holiday season, all shops may keep open until 10 p.m., and the obligation to close on one half day each week is waived. Furthermore, the sale of articles associated with the holiday traffic and all articles of food, with the exception of butchers meat, may be sold on Sundays up to 10 p.m. Although the concessions apply to the whole of the area, only those shops adjacent to the seafront take advantage of all of them, but it is often necessary to remind some shop keepers to return to normal closing hours, especially on Sundays, when the holiday season is over.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Registered Premises

A total of 592 premises were shown on the register at the end of 1967, an increase of 46 over the 1966 figure. There were 68 new registrations and 22 deletions during the year. It is known that some of the new registrations should have been made in 1964, but although failure to register does carry a penalty, no action was taken as these were out of time when found.

Persons Employed

The number of persons employed in registered premises is 3152, 1370 males and 1782 females. These figures must be regarded as an approximation. Employers are not required to notify variations in the number of staff employed, these are kept up to date so far as is possible during inspections. It is noted that shops engaged in retail trade give employment to the largest number, 1456, and offices come second with 965, while catering establishments employ 503.

Inspections

There has been an increase in the number of inspections, 423 in 1967 as against 259 in 1966. One hundred and thirty seven premises received a general inspection, and now approximately two thirds (62.5%) of the registered premises have been given a general inspection.

Contraventions

A number of contraventions have been found during the course of inspections, these are as set out below:-

Section 4.	Cleanliness	19
" 6.	Temperature	33
" 7.	Ventilation	3
" 8.	Lighting	9
" 9.	Sanitary conveniences	11
" 10.	Washing facilities	28
" 11.	Supply of drinking water	1
" 12.	Clothing accommodation	1
" 13.	Sitting facilities	1
" 14.	Seats	1
" 15.	Eating facilities	1
" 16.	Floors, passage and stairs	5
" 24.	First aid	41
	Other matters	53

The usual practice is to notify the occupier verbally in the first instance, this is followed by a confirmatory letter, and a reminder if need be. This method of approach has worked very well, and it has not been necessary to institute Court proceedings.

Inspectors

The number of Inspectors authorised under Section 52 is five. We continue to use the expertise of the Public Health Inspectors, who have fitted in these inspections with their other duties. This means some slowing down on occasion as the work cannot be given a first priority, but with so small a number of registered premises, there seems little justification for appointing a specialist officer.

One Inspector resigned as from 31st October 1967 to take up another appointment, so that four officers only were available for this work for the last two months of 1967.

Accidents

Twelve accidents have been reported, the sexes were equally affected, but three involved young persons. Six were falls, four on staircases. Two while cleaning, one while carrying goods, and one while jumping downstairs (a girl of 15). Two were cut hands, three injured by falling objects and one while lifting. Investigation did not indicate any failure on the part of employers to apply safety measures.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

One complaint of noise nuisance was received. This was a vibratory noise from an adjoining factory where a night workers rest was being disturbed. During normal day time conditions the noise was scarcely worthy of comment, but the factory management was sympathetic and by a rearrangement of machinery, was able to eliminate the source of complaint.

CINEMAS, THEATRES, DANCE HALLS

There are now two cinemas and two theatres in the Borough, these together with halls used for public dancing and other forms of entertainment and other licensed premises provide for the needs of both residents and visitors throughout the year. The number of premises licensed for public music and/or dancing in the Borough is 89, and conditions in general are satisfactory.

COMPLAINTS

The number of complaints from all sources was 609. These are attended to as quickly as possible, it is important that complaints should be dealt with promptly, and the bona fide complainant can be sure of receiving sympathetic consideration.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT

During general observations of shops for other purposes, such as Shops Act and Food Hygiene Regulations, notice is taken of the marking of produce as required by the Merchandise Marks Act. Usually it is found that produce is marked with the country of origin; there does not appear to be any deliberate attempt to deceive the customer. It has not been found necessary to institute any proceedings under the Act.

NOTICES SERVED

Intimation notices served	264
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Statutory notices served -	
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under Public Health Acts	16
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under Housing Acts	10
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INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

The Public Health Inspectors paid a total of 6,385 visits during the year, to all types of property and for a variety of reasons. Some were as a result of complaints made to the Department, others at the request of builders but the majority were made as a routine measure to dwelling houses, shops, offices, catering premises etc.

IMPROVEMENTS

Drains cleared	69
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Drains amended	12
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Other improvements to drainage systems	20
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Total number of Internal Repairs to Houses:	265
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External Repairs:

Roofs etc.	50
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Eaves gutters, rain water pipes etc.	23
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Others	43
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Miscellaneous items of repair or improvements effected in dwelling houses, factory premises, restaurants etc:	299
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DISINFECTION

Eight rooms were disinfected following infectious disease and other conditions where occupiers had made a request and 12 sets of bedding were destroyed.

The Disinfecting Station in Broad Street was closed during 1966 and arrangements made with the Isle of Thanet Hospital Management Committee to use the disinfectant at Haine Hospital were continued.

PEST CONTROL

The Public Health Inspectors are frequently called upon for assistance and advice where insect infestations occur, sometimes these are found during the course of inspection or for other purposes. Fleas occur from time to time, and bug infestations have become a rarity; these insects only become a problem where there is insufficient attention to personal and household cleanliness, but they can be introduced by accident. Complaints of other forms of infestation are received on occasion, and sometimes we are asked to identify some unusual insect. In these cases, if we are at a loss, we have found the staff of the Natural History Museum to be very helpful, they have never failed to identify any specimens sent to them and to advise on feeding habits and method of control.

Treatment is carried out by liquid or powder insecticides as the case demands, and is usually effective. I must stress that although we in this Department are willing to help in these matters, the individual is primarily responsible for keeping himself free from pests.

The following table shows the number of premises treated together with the type of infestation:-

	Council Property:		Other Property:	
	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Rooms</u>	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Rooms</u>
Bugs	1	1	2	2
Fleas	7	41	22	114
Flies, beetles, insects etc.	13	37	7	21

In addition 46 premises were treated for wasps' nests.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

One full time operator is employed to deal with complaints of rodent infestations, and treatments are carried out in all classes of property.

A charge is levied for the treatment of business premises, but private dwellings are treated free of charge. It is emphasised that the occupier is responsible for keeping his premises free from rats and mice, the Council is willing to help, but the occupier must notify the Council and must carry out such work of rat proofing as may be necessary.

In investigating complaints it is usual to survey the adjoining property as it is unlikely that the rat would confine its activities to one house alone. The few agricultural holdings in the area are visited from time to time, mainly to ensure that treatment is being carried out, farmers usually carry out their own treatments and do not need our assistance.

The controlled tip at Sandwich Road is surveyed at frequent intervals, if this was neglected it would become an active reservoir of infestation.

Treatments are usually carried out by Warfarin, and in general excellent results are achieved, we have found no indication of Warfarin resistance, but do on occasion use other poisons such as arsenic or zinc phosphate.

Sewer treatments are carried out at six monthly intervals, the first treatment of the year is preceded by test baiting to ascertain the degree of infestation. Regular treatment of the sewers is an important part of Rodent Control. It must be accepted that it is unlikely that sewer rats can be eliminated completely, therefore, any relaxation in this field is likely to lead to very serious infestations.

